

Kansas Diversity Network Meeting Minutes September 13, 2007

Attending: Joel Schuckman, Debbie Lang, Patsy Congrove, Marie Ortega de Ortiz, LeaAnn Curtis, Vicki Lierz, Kim Warren, Lisa Locke, Robbie Berry, Anthony A. Fadale, John R. Williams, Bob Cockrell, Mike Broadwell, Deborah Carlson and Tina DeLaRosa

Diversity Network Website: Enhancements to the website were suggested such as adding the minutes, removing the outdated list of network members and replacing with a list of participating agencies, adding the new executive order, looking at the links/workflow of the website and using images of the diversity brochures as links instead of the current text. Updates and suggestions for the website can be sent to Heather Richardson at Heather.Richardson@da.ks.gov The website can be viewed at: <http://da.ks.gov/diversity/>

Executive Order 7-24: This was signed by the Governor on August 31, 2007. Discussion focused on the 4 points/programs highlighted in the executive order and how to provide guidance and direction on these points. A sub team was setup consisting of Marie, John, Anthony, Lisa and Joel to assess what is currently being done by other agencies/states and to establish some best practices/guidelines. The executive order may be viewed at:
http://www.governor.ks.gov/executive/Orders/exec_order0724.htm The press release may be viewed at:
<http://www.governor.ks.gov/news/NewsRelease/2007/nr-07-0831a.htm>

Student Career Fair: Sunday, September 16th : Debbie Lang provided some information on a Career Fair day for students at the Marlo Cuevas-Balandran Activity Center at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. The fair is from 1 to 5 and is for students from the 6th to the 12th grade. If anyone has any recruitment items such as pins or stickers, Debbie would be interested in taking to the fair. You may contact her at: DDV@srs.ks.gov

KDOT/JJA Mini-job fairs/Workforce Center Partnership: Mike reported on the success of targeted career fairs and the collaborations with the Workforce center. He also mentioned that the jobs.ks.gov website is currently highlighting job fairs for KDOT for Engineering Technician associates. The weekly list serve to applicants can also be used to highlight or target for recruitment. There are around 3100 signed up for this service, but even more people have access to it as some of these are groups or the list is forwarded on to others.

EEO Regents Meeting – 8/31 presentation: Mike Broadwell reported on a presentation he gave to the Regents on some of the accomplishments of the Diversity Network such as the communication list (3100 signed up for), statewide career fairs, applicant workshops, partnering with the Workforce centers, and the cultural celebration. This was also the day the Governor signed the executive order. Thank you Mike!

Cultural Celebration: Discussion centered around the planning for the second celebration, increasing turnout and perhaps inviting the public. A team will be formed next year to plan this event. If you have suggestions for vendors, please forward to Debbie Lang at DDV@srs.ks.gov

Gov Training Program: It was decided to shelve discussion on this, and perhaps focus on internships or other alternatives to bring people into State employment.

ADA update: Anthony reported on some training he had presented at SRS. Other discussion focused on the training component of the Executive Order 07-24 in particularly point three which deals with a program of awareness regarding legal protections for persons with disabilities in order to apply for employment. Anthony has moved to SRS, same job, but a different email address. You may contact him at AFadale@srs.ks.gov

Other items: Discussion centered around on reporting back to the Cabinet agencies on our accomplishments, and also on increasing participation for the group. We are always looking for more participation and ideas.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Thursday, October 11th from 10 to noon in the Sunflower Room, Docking State Office Building, 11th Floor.